(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to bring about an improvement in labour regulations, in order to accelerate manufacturing growth and employment in key-labour sectors ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) The Advance Estimates (AE) of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for 2006-07 places the growth of GDP at constant (1999-2000) prices in the current year at 9.2 per cent. India's manufacturing sector in 2006-07 accounts for 15.41 percent of GDP whereas share of employment of manufacturing sector in total employment, as per the lastest report of the labour force survey conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation during 2004-05, was estimated to be 11.70 per cent on usual status basis. Employment in formal manufacturing sector, as per Annual Survey of Industries, declined from 95.36 lakh in 1996-97 to 79.36 lakh in 2002-03.

(b) and (c) Review/updation of labour laws is an ongoing process in order to bring them in tune with the emerging needs of the economy such as increasing production, productivity, employment, etc. The required changes in the labour laws are accomplished by the Government after detailed consultation with the social partners with a view to harmonize the interests of all stake holders.

Gujarat Industrial Park Ordinance

1746. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state whether the Gujarat Government has proposed to the Central Government an Industrial Park Ordinance, with flexible labour policy, if so, what is the progress?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): The State Government of Gujarat had sent draft proposal of Gujarat Industrial Park Ordinance, 2003 in the year 2003 for obtaining the approval of the Central Government. The State Government of Gujarat has been advised to submit a revised proposal after due consultation with the Central Trade Unions. The revised proposal as suggested by the Ministry of Labour and Employment is yet to be received.